Eleventh Plan expenditure target

*103. MS. MABEL REBELLO:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has observed that to meet the Eleventh Plan expenditure target, Government will have to follow a much 'bolder' disinvestment plan;

(b) whether this decision emerged after the full meeting of the Planning Commission chaired by the Prime Minister;

(c) whether the Commission has also called for taking steps to reduce subsidies, especially those for fertilizer and petroleum products; and

(d) if so, the other main decisions taken and by what time these decisions will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) Full Planning Commission in the meeting held on September 1, 2009 deliberated on the Discussion Paper on the "State of the Economy". The paper presented an assessment of the current economic situation and a tentative projection of prospects for the last two years of the Plan. Full Planning Commission endorsed the assessment of the current economic situation. The concluding observations in the meeting amongst others mentioned that there was a need to revive investment, particularly in the infrastructure sector, and to contain fiscal deficit within the limits of prudence, by raising resources and using the resources efficiently. The challenge of resource mobilization over the last two years of the Eleventh Five Year Plan needed to be met to sustain the momentum of planned development and to meet adequate funding for the flagship programmes.

BSNL/MTNL share in mobile market

*104. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are losing share in mobile market and the performance of these Government owned companies has been deteriorating despite having a one year lead of 3G services;

(b) whether in landline the market share of Government operators has gone down from 89.4 per cent in 2008 to 85.8 per cent in 2009 and in mobile from 17 per cent in 2008 to 13.6 per cent in 2009;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the strategy of BSNL and MTNL to protect the market share and to control the decline?